

**DRAFT Minutes**  
**Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy Board**  
**Public Utilities Commission, Room A, Concord, NH**  
**9 AM – 12:00 PM**  
**Friday May 11, 2012 Meeting**

**\*Items underlined and in color are hyperlinked to documents.**

**Members in Attendance:**

Eric Steltzer from OEP; Steve Eckberg from OCA; Jack Ruderman from PUC; Karen Cramton from DRED; Mike Fitzgerald from DES; Alan Linder from NH Legal; Ryan Clouthier for Dana Nute from Community Action; Karen Rantamaki, State Energy Manger; Deborah Schachter for NH Charitable Foundation; Brian Ramsey for BIA; Timothy Fortier for NH Municipal Association; Luke Benson for the Home Builders Association; Representative Jim Garrity for NH House and David Borden for NH Sustainable Association.

**Non-Voting Members in Attendance:**

Gil Gelineau from PSNH; Carol Woods from NHEC; Michael Bruss from Bruss Construction; Michael Behrmann from Revolution Energy and Kate Peters from NH CDFA.

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

- Eric Steltzer welcomed the group on behalf of George Gantz, noting that George had asked him to chair the meeting and also noting change of order to elements of the agenda.

**2. Minutes of April 18, 2012 EESE Board Meeting**

- The minutes were tabled until the next meeting to allow a corrected version to be resubmitted to the Board members and considered at the June 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Alan Linder requested that, per the discussion at the last meeting and as noted in the draft meeting summary notes, the findings of the LBA Audit of the PUC be posted to the PUC website for review by the Board and members of the public.

**3. Updates:**

- Legislative Monitoring Subcommittee  
Noted that:
  - SB 215, in ST&E relating to the site evaluation committee, was voted “inexpedient-to-legislate” (ITL) in --- committee (16-1);
  - SB 266 - the homeowner smart meter bill was voted “ought-to-pass” (OTP) in committee (11-4);
  - SB 258 – Group net-metering bill was voted ITL in House committee (13-4);
  - HB 1490 – the repeal of RGGI bill, which would pull NH out in 2015, give away allowances for free. The senate version mirrored bill from last year with all but \$1

per allowance being rebated to customers, with the dollar going to the CORE energy efficiency programs, and NH getting out of the program if two New England states withdraw.

- The Senate version has gone to the House where they can concur, not concur or request a committee of conference
- SB 218 – the senate version of the RPS bill would:
  - increase the number of facilities that qualify for Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) including biomass and hydroelectric facilities;
  - add useful thermal energy as qualifying for RECs;
  - increase total percentage of sales to 29% by 2025; and
  - cap methane in class 3 at 10 MWh.

The House version kept many of those changes, but changed:

- upper limit to 25% by 2025;
- removed cap on methane;
- lowered ACP payments for all classes;
- and reduced rate of ACP increase to ½ the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

Differences between the House and Senate versions also related to how they integrated the 2.5% requirement for thermal.

The House also allowed small net-metered solar generators to be aggregated and counted.

- **Leadership Transition Working Group**

- The group has not met but an email has gone out.

- **Municipal Energy Liaison**

- David Borden, the EESE Board liaison to the Local Energy Working Group (LEWG) deferred to Julia Dondorf (CA-CP) who noted that there are four teams within the LEWG that are developing work plans around Finance, Policy, Education, and Technical Assistance.
- Mike Fitzgerald of DES noted that ISO-NE is engaged in a planning process to incorporate energy efficiency in planning – felt it was critical to communicate that planning for the grid is undertaken with robust modeling that can demonstrate the power of investment in energy efficiency. The EESE Board understands this but perhaps could use ISO-NE resources to communicate to municipalities.

- **Outreach and Education Working Group**

- Group will meet on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at OEP in Johnson Hall at 107 Pleasant St. at 10 AM.

- **Program Updates**

- Kate Epsen of the PUC noted:

- PUC Renewable Energy Fund
  - PUC has an RFP for commercial and industrial projects. The proposals have been reviewed and are before the commission.
  - The residential small renewable electrical generation systems rebate program has been put on hold with applicants placed on a waiting list until funds are replenished, hopefully to open July 1, 2012.
- The bulk-fed wood-pellet central heating system rebate program had been given an extension from US DOE and would continue until funds were exhausted.
- Eric Steltzer of OEP noted:
  - The Competitive State Energy Program award program was moving forward.
    - OEP is seeking a consultant to provide technical assistance in pursuing the adoption of an energy efficiency resource standard and policy mechanisms to increase the capture of cost effective energy efficiency opportunities.
    - There was a pre-bidders meeting held on May 7<sup>th</sup> with proposals due May 18<sup>th</sup>.

#### **4. RGGI Grant Presentation – Dartmouth Energy and Sustainability Management System**

- Dartmouth College received \$330,000 in 2009 during first round of RGGI grants. The funds were used to develop an integrated energy management system that allows for more frequent (3000 data measurements per unit/meter per month) and more accurate data-tracking and analysis and enable better system management/ operation and maintenance.
- The funds were used to move the college from a paper based system to an electronic automated system that integrated pre-existing management measures from Johnson Controls and Honeywell.
- System is adaptable and can be tuned to match growing efficiencies in other areas of the college system.

#### **5. NH Energy Code Compliance Roadmap Presentation**

- Scott Albert of GDS Associates provided an overview of the NH Energy Code Challenge, an stakeholder process that was used to develop the NH Energy Code Compliance Roadmap.
- The project was a \$600,000, 2.5 year project that generated a several hundred page report that outlines detailed steps that EACH sector can take to advance code compliance within the state. These individual sector steps can be independent and complimentary.
- Following a question from Becky Ohler of DES, it was noted that the Roadmap can be used to increase compliance of the 2009 IECC code as well as any subsequent code that the State may adopt in the future, such as the 2012 IECC which has already been issued.
- Future work on code compliance will be taken up by the NH Energy Code Collaborative, which will be co-lead by OEP and the PUC and have its first meeting at June 4, 2012 at 2:30pm, PSNH headquarters, Manchester, NH.

## 6. Energy Study Working Group Chapter Reports:

The committee noted that they are reviewing each of the 11 topic-oriented chapters using small team and developing chapter syntheses to share with the Board for each.

Once the committee has the full menu of chapter syntheses completed in a draft final form it will be pulled together into a larger set of recommendations for the EESE Board to consider. The VEIC Review will include both observations on legislative and programmatic elements within the study. The EESE Board will want to determine what and how to emphasize to the legislature.

The VEIC Study Review Committee reviewed three chapter syntheses

- Chapter 12: Building Codes
  - Chris Skoglund (DES) presented for the review team and reviewed their chapter synthesis.
  - The review team noted that foremost recommendation should be that the legislature ratify the 2009 IECC code as the state energy code and ratify any subsequent energy code issued by the NH Building Code Review Board as soon as practicable.
  - The committee noted that the building codes chapter was issued prior to the completion of the GDS Energy Code Compliance Roadmap. The measures contained in the chapter have since been considered by GDS and added to the roadmap, which will be taken up by the Energy Code Collaborative. There is also an existing process for developing the state energy code through the Building Code Review Board. The review team recommends that it be recommended that these two bodies be tasked with considering the Chapter further.
- Chapter 10: Energy Finance Programs
  - Deborah Schachter (NHCF) presented for the review team and reviewed their chapter synthesis
  - Kate Peters of Better Buildings, observed that
    - a single entity to coordinate financing would be great but there are currently lots of offerings from lots of entities which makes the landscape very confusing;
    - there is an issue of coordination with CORE and with private capital;
    - the PUC may have a role to play in coordinating and leveraging that private capital; and
    - there may be benefit to clarifying whether coordination means housing under a single entity or whether coordination is integrating complementary efforts across different entities.
  - Mike Bruss and others observed that significant benefit in the financing realm may be achievable through the development of standardized language, applications and metrics. While there may not be a single entity, a single application may reduce soft costs.

- Mike Behrmann of Revolution Energy noted that there needs to be consistency and that entities can rely on programs to stay in place and continue to meet their financial obligation.
- Mary Downes of OEP noted that secondary markets may be available for energy efficiency loans, but the investor community is still waiting for risk to be established.
- Chapter 8: Smart Grid
  - Carol Woods (NHEC) and Becky Ohler (DES) of the review team noted that the chapter was based on premise that smart meters had been deployed, which is not the case in New Hampshire. They noted that there are some concerns about smart meters and the smart grid that will require that outreach be properly developed as well as properly implemented. A key element of implementation will be timing in advance of deployment of meters to increase acceptance.
  - Eric Steltzer of OEP noted that there is a need to clarify in the public's mind whether smart meters and the smart grid is about communicating about energy or control over energy use.
  - Gil Gelineau of PSNH noted that there will be a benefit to prepare in advance for legislation that may be based on incorrect information.

Two chapter syntheses were shared with the Board and with attendees but the committee were not able to present them for discussion. They will be shared electronically with the Board prior to the next meeting and then presented for discussion.

- Chapter 9: Utility Performance Incentives
- Chapter 11: Planning / Municipal

Any VEIC materials that will be reviewed at the next EESE Board meeting will be shared a full week in advance to allow complete consideration by those interested.

## **7. Other Business**

- The next meeting of the EESE Board will be on June 8, 2012 at the NH PUC from 9 am – 12 pm in Conference Room A.